



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Held on

Tuesday, 29 November 2022

1:00pm

in

NEWA Meeting Room, Rusden Street

PRESENT: Councillor Tim Bower (Chair), Councillor Margaret O'Connor,
Councillor Paul Packham and Councillor Dorothy Robinson

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Tim Weeks (General Manager), Mr. Laurie Knight (CFO)

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD AT 1:00PM ON 29 NOVEMBER IN THE NEWA OFFICES**

STATEMENT IN RELATION TO RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Cr. Tim: Bower advised that the Meeting was *not* being live-streamed, however, a video recording of the meeting will be available on the County Council's website. A technical issue meant that recording of the meeting was only commenced at 1:37pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Tim Bower (Chair), Councillor Margaret O'Connor,
Councillor Paul Packham and Councillor Dorothy Robinson

APOLOGIES: Councillor Lara Gresham and Councillor Scott Kermode

45/22 Resolved:

That the apologies of Councillors Gresham and Kermode be accepted.

Moved: Councillor Robinson

Seconded: Councillor Packham

The motion being put to the **Vote** was passed UNANIMOUSLY.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST - NIL

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD ON 4 OCTOBER 2022**

46/22 Resolved:

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the New England County Council held on 4 October, including detail of the Closed Session, and having been distributed to the Members, be adopted as a true and correct record of events.

Moved: Councillor Robinson

Seconded: Councillor O'Connor

The motion being put to the **Vote** was passed UNANIMOUSLY.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF
NEW ENGLAND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON 4 OCTOBER 2022**

There were NIL matters arising

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD AT 1:00PM ON 29 NOVEMBER IN THE NEWA OFFICES**

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD ON 1 NOVEMBER 2022**

47/22 Resolved:

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the New England County Council held on 1 November 2022, having been distributed to the Members, be adopted as a true and correct record of events.

Moved: Councillor Robinson

Seconded: Councillor Packham

The motion being put to the **Vote** was passed UNANIMOUSLY.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF
NEW ENGLAND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON 1 NOVEMBER 2022**

48/22 Resolved:

1. Having adopted the Model Policies and Model Codes of Practice documents, Councillors were reminded to ensure that 'model' policies can and should be considered to ensure that adopted policies suit local requirements.

Moved: Councillor Packham

Seconded: Councillor Robinson

The motion being put to the **Vote** was passed UNANIMOUSLY.

2. With regard to the General Manager's Performance Review, Councillor Bower noted that Councillor O'Connor had been nominated as the GM's representative.

48/22 Resolved:

That pursuant to Resolution 44/22, the GM's performance review panel should comprise Councillors Bower, Robinson and O'Connor – as the GM's representative.

Moved: Councillor Bower

Seconded: Councillor Packham

The motion being put to the **Vote** was passed UNANIMOUSLY.

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD AT 1:00PM ON 29 NOVEMBER IN THE NEWA OFFICES**

**ADOPTION OF ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2021 to 2022
FINANCIAL YEAR**

Laurie Knight, CFO, advised council that financial information extracted from NEWA's historic document management system, has enabled NEWA to prepare and provide Forsyths (auditors) with analysis of the outstanding item required to complete the audit preparation.

49/22 Resolved:

1. That Council note the status of the 2021-2022 audit including the limitations presented by the Christmas and New Year holiday period on the availability of Forsyth's staff to complete the audit process.
2. That Council endorses the proposal to write to the OLG requesting an extension to the date for presentation of the final audit to **28 February 2023**.

Moved: Councillor Robinson

Seconded: Councillor O'Connor

The motion being put to the **Vote** was passed UNANIMOUSLY.

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORTS

QUARTERLY BUSINESS REVIEW – SEPTEMBER 2022

50/22 Resolved:

1. That Council endorse the changes detailed in the Quarterly Business Review report, and
2. That Council adopt the September 2022 Quarterly Budget Review.

Moved: Councillor O'Connor

Seconded: Councillor Packham

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WEED CONTROL MATTERS

51/22 Resolved:

That the Weeds Action Plan summarising outcomes and activities to date, including the 2022-2023 Weeds Action Program, be received and noted.

Moved: Councillor Packham

Seconded: Councillor Robinson

52/22 Resolved:

That NEWA Councillors thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the Field Day held at Charleston Willows on 22 November and wish to that the GM and the work undertaken by staff organising the day.

Moved: Councillor Bower

Seconded: Councillor Packham

COUNCILLOR REMUNERATION

53/22 Resolved:

That it is recommended by the Chair that the meeting move into *closed* session as discussion involves personal matters relating to a councillor.

Moved: Councillor Robinson

Seconded: Councillor O'Connor

54/22 Resolved:

That the meeting exits the closed session at 2:57pm.

Moved: Councillor O'Connor

Seconded: Councillor Packham

55/22 Resolved:

That the current additional allowance for the Chair of the County Council be increased by 2%, as per the findings of the Remuneration Tribunal & Section 241 of the Local Government Act with effect from 1 July 2022,

Moved: Councillor Packham

Seconded: Councillor Bower

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD AT 1:00PM ON 29 NOVEMBER IN THE NEWA OFFICES**

**END OF PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF OPERATIONAL PLAN AND BUDGET
FOR 2022-2023**

56/22 Resolved:

1. That the New England Weeds Authority Annual Operational Plan 2022 2023 be adopted in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993.
2. That the constituent member Councils of Armidale Regional, Glen Innes Severn, Walcha and Uralla be provided with a copy of the final New England Weeds Authority Annual Operational Plan 2022-2023 and that the plan be available on Council's website.

Moved: Councillor Robinson

Seconded: Councillor O'Connor

MATTERS OF URGENCY

For Information – The County Council will be closed from Thursday, 22 December 2022 until Tuesday, 3 January 2023,

NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 7th February 2023 at 01:00pm

Meeting closed – 3:00pm.